



## RTCA in West Virginia

The Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) program is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. The National Park Service (NPS) staff provide technical assistance to community groups, city, county, tribal governments, and non-profit organizations working to enhance close-to-home outdoor recreation and natural resource conservation opportunities. We help local leaders plan and design trails and parks; conserve and improve access to natural areas; protect special places; and create recreation opportunities.

The RTCA program in West Virginia offers a wide range of services that can be tailored to meet the needs of an individual project. The NPS staff members are trained facilitators who encourage project leaders to build collaborative partnerships among governmental and non-governmental stakeholders. The program helps communities and groups define their vision, goals, and objectives; analyze issues and opportunities; and develop strategic action plans and time lines for projects. We do not provide financial assistance, but can help project partners identify and secure sources of funding and technical support.

Any community with committed project partners can apply for assistance. Believing the best plans are completed locally, the National Park Service will work with partners to encourage broad-based community participation in planning, designing, and implementing the projects we support.

In 2016, the National Park Service in West Virginia will work on a variety of projects including:

- **Groundwork West Virginia: Guyandotte** – The project goal is to work towards revitalization of Wyoming County, West Virginia through increasing recreational opportunities, redeveloping brownfields, and implementing environmental education and job training programs. (Location: Guyandotte, West Virginia)
- **Harpers Ferry River Access** – The project goal is to establish safe public access along the white water sections of the Shenandoah and Potomac Rivers in the Harpers Ferry, West Virginia. (Location: Harpers Ferry, WV)
- **New River Gorge Trails** – The project goal is to build 35 miles of new mountain bike trails in two separate locations in the New River Gorge. (Location: Fayette County, West Virginia)
- **Wardensville River Access and Stormwater Management** – The project goal is to prepare conceptual site plans for public river access to the Cacapon River Water Trail, as well as design low-impact, non-structural storm water facilities to divert polluted run-off away. (Location: Wardensville, West Virginia)



Hikers look at the trees in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia

For more information about the RTCA program refer to: [www.nps.gov/rtca](http://www.nps.gov/rtca), or for information about ongoing or potential RTCA projects in West Virginia contact:

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